

Mr. Washington seems to think that is of the first importance, to get property. Now, I do not think this is so, nor of the first importance. You take a mother or father in that part of the country and the first thing she wants her boy or girl to have is knowledge. She wants them to grow up good and she spends a great deal of time in saying, "Do right, my son." She used to think it wrong to go fishing on Sunday, or hunting, and she did not let him go. My mother regarded these things of the utmost importance at the time of our youth. And when I left home she said to me, "Do right." When I went to West Point, she said, "Do right." Every letter was full of it. "Your mother is praying for you. Try to do right." I have not had but one hand for about forty years. The head is most important. The head, and what is in the head. The heart is important and the conscience. "Love thy God with all thy heart and mind and strength, and thy neighbor as thyself." That lies at the foundation of life.

The World Wants Right Principles

I met a lady in Chicago. I understood that there were 1,200 children being taught in a Sunday-school, and some one went to see what they were taught, and he found one of the very first things was, "There is no God." The most important thing, they are taught, is to make money—honestly if you can, but make it. That is not what the world wants. What the world wants is right principles. And this is the right principle, to teach the children and to bring them up a little higher. We have nothing to do with results, but we have to do with the means of making results. And by training the boys and girls to respect the rights of others and to respect the rights of his black brother and sister we have advanced in the right way. May we continue to do so!

The Negro as a Free Man

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Pastor First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn. At Clifton Conference, August 18, 1908

"This world is full of beauty, like other worlds above,
And if we do our duty, it makes it full of love."

THOUGHT is love, and the settlement of this problem is the duty of those who love God. And it is our duty to settle this problem together.

I remember a passage in one of the books of Ian Maclaren in which the preacher and his elder had difficulty, and the story



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was told that they were acquainted with each other but they prayed apart. It is well that we are to be acquainted and pray together. We cannot get away from each other, and we are together by the strange confidence which the past session has created and we are together to stay until the end and settle this problem in the light of Christ's truth and love.

I am reminded of a story Mr. Miller, of Virginia, told. He had a man who was so shiftless that he thought he ought to get rid of him. He told him he would have to discharge him and he could go. Well, Tom stayed away for a day or two and then back he came. But soon it seemed that he was more shiftless than ever and Mr. Miller said, "I can't stand it any longer, and I am going to discharge you for good." Mr. Miller said he was sorry that they would have to part company. The negro said, "Mas'r Miller, wher you gwine to move to?" I believe the white folks are here to stay and the Negroes are here to stay.

Rest and Self-Denying Character Wanted

Yesterday General Johnston quoted to me from one of the great authorities, these words: "I know that what we all want is in the word 'rest,' — rest of heart and brain, self-content, self-denying character which needs no stimulant for it has no fits of depression, which needs no narcotic for it has no need of it, which needs no warning against abuse of privileges for it is strong enough to use without abuse, — a character which is so strengthened that it needs no goad."

Mr. President, there are three stages in the upward progress of human life towards maturity, towards the perfection of life, and they are best defined in those three words, Control, Freedom, Mastery. Freedom and mastery belong to the individual, or to the race, but those three stages are always in the development of human lives. Control of the youth, freedom of the man as he comes to his maturity, the mastery of the man over himself and his difficulties, the controlling of the race when it begins to have the freedom and the mastery is definite progress.